



### HANTAVIRUS CARDIOPULMONARY SYNDROME

No case of hantavirus cardiopulmonary syndrome were reported to the California Department of Public Health in October - December, 2010.

### RODENT SURVEILLANCE

Results of testing for serum antibody to Sin Nombre virus were reported in October - December, 2010, for rodents collected in the following counties:

#### *Peromyscus* spp.

County	<u><i>P. boylii</i></u>		<u><i>P. californicus</i></u>		<u><i>P. crinitus</i></u>		<u><i>P. eremicus</i></u>		<u><i>P. maniculatus</i></u>		<u><i>P. truei</i></u>	
	Pos	Tested	Pos	Tested	Pos	Tested	Pos	Tested	Pos	Tested	Pos	Tested
<b>El Dorado</b>									2	13		
<b>Lassen</b>	0	7							1	26		
<b>Riverside</b>							0	28	0	4		
<b>San Bernardino</b>									0	27		
<b>San Diego</b>			0	26			0	53	0	31		
<b>Santa Cruz</b>									0	8		
<b>Shasta</b>									2	6		
<b>California: 2010 YTD</b>	1 / 97		0 / 101		0 / 13		15 / 333		27 / 454		0 / 24	

Surveillance data collected and reported by the Coachella Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District, San Diego County Vector Control Program, West Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District, and the California Department of Public Health Viral and Rickettsial Diseases Laboratory and Vector-Borne Disease Section

### OTHER NEWS

The American Society of Mammalogists recently published suggested revised guidelines on protection from hantavirus infection for biologists and others who study and handle wild rodents in the field. The reference and abstract of this publication is provided for information only. The California Department of Public Health's Vector-Borne Disease Section continues to advocate and abide by the guidelines for personal protection as developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5109a1.htm>) as the most effective evidence-based protocol to prevent the transmission of aerosolized hantavirus to persons who work with wild rodents.

DA Kelt, MS Hafner, and the American Society of Mammalogists' ad hoc Committee for Guidelines on Handling Rodents in the Field. Updated guidelines for protection of mammalogists and wildlife researchers from hantavirus pulmonary syndrome (HPS). *J Mammal* 2010; 91:1524-1527.

The American Society of Mammalogists herein provides revised guidelines for personnel working with rodents potentially infected with viruses that cause hantavirus pulmonary syndrome (HPS) in humans. We

also clarify that previously published guidelines, including those of the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), were not intended to apply to field-workers conducting nonviral-based research on rodents. Unfortunately, institutional animal care and use committees and other safety officers have assumed that current CDC recommendations are requirements for conducting safe field research. They then have misapplied the original CDC recommendations to field researchers conducting behavioral, ecological, taxonomic, and other research, making field research increasingly and unnecessarily difficult. Herein, we provide guidelines that have been modified from those published by the CDC to incorporate new information about HPS risk and to better match the level of personal protection to the level of risk associated with a wider array of field activities.